

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.111
U.S. Appln. No. 09/326,691

sodium 1,6-hexamethylenedithiosulfate dihydrate, in the amount of 1 to 10 parts by weight per 100 parts of the rubber component; and

compound A having two or more ester groups in one molecule, in the amount of 0.5 to 20 parts by weight per 100 parts by weight of the rubber component,

C¹ wherein said rubber composition has, in a curve exhibiting a change in dynamic storage modulus during elevation of temperature, an intersection of an extrapolation line A of a portion in which the dynamic storage modulus shows an approximately linear change before a rapid decrease at temperatures higher than 100°C and an extrapolation line B of a portion in which the dynamic storage modulus rapidly decreases, at a temperature of 170°C or higher.

10 (three times amended). A rubber composition comprising:

a rubber component;

sodium 1,6-hexamethylenedithiosulfate dihydrate, in the amount of 1 to 10 parts by weight per 100 parts of the rubber component; and

C² compound A having two or more ester groups in one molecule, in the amount of 0.5 to 20 parts by weight per 100 parts by weight of the rubber component,

wherein said rubber composition has, in a curve exhibiting a change in dynamic storage modulus during elevation of temperature, a difference $\Delta E'$ between the maximum value and the minimum value of the dynamic storage modulus at a temperature between 180 and 200°C of 2.5 MPa or less.

C³ 17 (three times amended). A pneumatic tire comprising bead fillers and/or side wall portions reinforced with a rubber reinforcing layer, wherein the rubber reinforcing layer and/or bead fillers comprise a rubber composition comprising sodium 1,6-hexamethylenedithiosulfate dihydrate in the amount of 1 to 10 parts by weight per 100 parts of the rubber component, and wherein the rubber composition has, in a curve exhibiting a change in dynamic storage modulus during elevation of temperature, a difference $\Delta E'$ between the maximum value and the minimum value of the dynamic storage modulus at a temperature between 180 and 200 C of 2.5 MPa or less.

C⁴ 19 (twice amended). A pneumatic tire comprising bead fillers and/or side wall portions reinforced with a rubber reinforcing layer, wherein the rubber reinforcing layer and/or bead fillers comprise a rubber composition comprising sodium 1,6-hexamethylenedi thiosulfate dihydrate in the amount of 1 to 10 parts by weight per 100 parts of the rubber component, and wherein said rubber composition has, in a curve exhibiting a change in dynamic storage modulus during elevation of temperature, an intersection of an extrapolation line A of a portion in which the dynamic storage modulus shows an approximately linear change before a rapid decrease at temperatures higher than 100°C and an extrapolation line B of a portion in which the dynamic storage modulus rapidly decreases, at a temperature of 170°C or higher.

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U.S. Appln. No. 09/326,691

14 20 (Amended). A pneumatic tire comprising bead fillers and/or side wall portions reinforced with a rubber reinforcing layer, wherein the rubber reinforcing layer and/or bead fillers comprise a rubber composition comprising a compound A having two or more ester groups in one molecule in the amount of 0.5 to 20 parts by weight per 100 parts by weight of the rubber component, and wherein said rubber composition has, in a curve exhibiting a change in dynamic storage modulus during elevation of temperature, an intersection of an extrapolation line A of a portion in which the dynamic storage modulus shows an approximately linear change before a rapid decrease at temperatures higher than 100°C and an extrapolation line B of a portion in which the dynamic storage modulus rapidly decreases, at a temperature of 170°C or higher.

Please add the following new claim:

15 22 (New). A pneumatic tire comprising bead fillers and/or side wall portions reinforced with a rubber reinforcing layer, wherein the rubber reinforcing layer and/or bead fillers comprise a rubber composition comprising a compound A having two or more ester groups in one molecule in the amount of 0.5 to 20 parts by weight per 100 parts by weight of the rubber component, and wherein the rubber composition has, in a curve exhibiting a change in dynamic storage modulus during elevation of temperature, a difference $\Delta E'$ between the maximum value and the

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U.S. Appln. No. 09/326,691

minimum value of the dynamic storage modulus at a temperature between 180 and 200 C of 2.5 MPa or less.

23 (New). A pneumatic tire according to claim 17, wherein the side reinforcing layers and/or bead fillers further comprise a rubber composition comprising a compound A having two or more ester groups in one molecule.